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APPLY

MORI C05106149

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD M. HELMS

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger

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*no indication
that any was
sent but
Ed had in
file of file
staff
from Haig*

I understand that CIA, [REDACTED] has been involved recently in analyses of decision-making processes within Soviet political and military organizations. Analyses of this kind can be of great importance to our policy reviews. The President has often expressed his interest in careful assessments of Soviet reactions to the courses of action he wants to consider. An understanding of how Soviet organizations operate, how they are staffed, and how they interact with one another in the bureaucratic bargaining process should be of great value on issues such as:

1. Possible Soviet responses to different strategic arms control agreements.
2. Soviet reactions to U.S. strategic force deployments.
3. Implications for the U.S. and its Allies of the way the Soviet military posture is designed and deployed.
4. Implications for the U.S. of Soviet research, development and test programs.

I would like to do anything I can to encourage and support analyses along these lines. Members of my staff will be glad to discuss the matter further with your staff if that would be helpful.

I would appreciate receiving from you as soon as possible a paper which: (1) outlines what we now know about Soviet

bureaucratic decision making, (2) discusses any work now underway, and (3) lays out a plan of work to deepen our understanding of this process. I would of course want to have your recommendations as to whether further work in this area would be justified in light of the factors mentioned above and the likely payoffs.

LLynn/3-25-69